

AT

Burgate Farm, Harwood Dale, Scarborough YO13 0DS

19th September 2017

Your ref: NYM/2017/0593/R3

Dear Mrs Teasdale,

Proposed Bridleway Holding Areas A171, Moorcock Farm

The British Horse Society (BHS) supports the proposal and is grateful for the potential public benefits. I have ridden the length and breadth of the country and have crossed many fast A and trunk roads at grade and have evolved the safest way to do so; if more than one horse is crossing at the same time. As per our earlier telephone conversation, I have the following reservations as to the design as regards the safety of riders waiting in the corral to cross the road:

1. Horses are herd animals which means that if there are three horses, they all need to cross at the same time. One horse cannot be left behind in the event of a speeding vehicle approaching before they have crossed behind the first two riders.
2. This means that the safest way to cross is to line up standing facing the carriageway, all next to each other. On command from one rider they all cross at once and then turn to ride in single file having reached the other side, or in this case reach the sanctuary of the corral.
3. Since there is fencing and presumably a gate between the corral and the field, I see no use for the two sets of guard rails that are parallel to the carriageway and form a trackehner within the corral. They are an obstruction to free use of all the corral, which is necessary for three horses. If a waiting horse should spook at say a fast HGV, it will spin away from the road and crash into these rails, causing an accident.
4. I am sending a copy of this letter to the BHS Headquarters Rights of Way Department, as I gather that the Highways Authority have erroneous ideas as to what is safest for horses in these corrals.

I hope this is of help.

Yours sincerely,

Catrina Cook MBE (Mrs)

NYM/NPA
20 SEP 2017
KW